

Letter from the Editors

The 1999 issue of the *Journal of Public and International Affairs* (JPIA) concludes the first decade of the *Journal's* publication. As a scholarly publication exclusively presenting the work of graduate students from professional schools of public and international affairs, the *Journal* provides a unique opportunity for students of public policy to present ideas on issues of concern to them. It also offers a rare opportunity for cooperative student efforts among the members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA), providing the participating students with a forum for professional exchange and friendly interaction. The commitment and enthusiasm on the part of the contributing editors from each APSIA school was demonstrated this year when several students made the trip from California in the midst of mid-term week at their school, while others started driving at four in the morning in order to arrive on time for the *JPIA* Reading Weekend.

Competition for selection as a journal entry was particularly impressive this year. The *Journal* received sixty-eight submissions from the APSIA member schools. The quality of scholarship in the collective body of articles selected was high, tackling issues from finance to mad-cow disease, and from electricity to apocalyptic belief. Specifically, Auld discusses the potential role for independent power providers in meeting Asia's rapidly growing electricity demands. Through case-studies of Nicaragua and Honduras, Balint identifies the impediments to the worldwide provision of safe drinking water and sanitation. Canzano proposes a framework for understanding the financial risks associated with increasing international capital flows. Cleary argues that the Southern African Development Community shows greater potential than other regional organizations in Africa, but suggests that a narrower focus would allow for quicker progress. Näslund explores the ways in which women were excluded from the Salvadoran peace process, and argues that gender issues need to be explicitly addressed in other peace processes to prevent this from reoccurring. O'Neill identifies a number of weaknesses in the United Nations' approach to peacekeeping by reviewing the "successful" case of El Salvador, and argues that the United Nations would do better to narrow its focus and concentrate its efforts on its areas of strength. Socolovsky uses the Branch Davidian siege at Waco to suggest ways in which policy-makers might better understand and respond to apocalyptic belief. Schwartz explores the different mechanisms by which the emissions targets set by the Kyoto Protocol might be met. Finally, Massey explores the links between environmental regulation and industry

mobility through a review of the “race to the bottom” debate, while Telfer presents an in-depth examination of policy responses to the BSE epidemic in the United Kingdom.

The *JPIA* can be found in the libraries of prominent research centers across the United States and around the world. We have extended our commitment to increasing the public’s access to the *Journal’s* exceptional graduate student scholarship. In addition to adding more libraries and readers to our subscription list, we have improved our electronic edition, which can be perused at our Website: <http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~JPIA>. We welcome letters and comments, which can conveniently be sent to us through the Internet.

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